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Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009)

Budget performance for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 of the financing of support of the African Union Mission in Somalia and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 of the United Nations Support Office for the African Union Mission in Somalia

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Appropriation for 2011/12	$291,092,700
Expenditure for 2011/12	$287,757,400
Unencumbered balance for 2011/12	$3,335,300
Appropriation for 2012/13	$436,905,000
Projected expenditure for 2012/13[a]	$434,233,100
Estimated unencumbered balance for 2012/13[a]	$2,671,900
Proposal submitted by the Secretary-General for 2013/14	$448,439,200
Recommendation of the Advisory Committee for 2013/14	$439,071,000

[a] Estimates as at 28 February 2013.

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I. Introduction

1. **The recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 35, 36 and 38 below would entail a reduction of $9,368,200 in the proposed budget of the United Nations Support Office for the African Union Mission in Somalia (UNSOA) for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 (A/67/712). The Committee has made recommendations and observations on specific issues, where appropriate, in the paragraphs below.**

2. During its consideration of the financing of UNSOA, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses received on 12 April 2013. The documents reviewed and those used for background by the Committee are listed at the end of the present report. The Advisory Committee's detailed comments and recommendations on the findings of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2012, and its observations and recommendations on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations, can be found in its related reports (A/67/782 and A/67/780, respectively).

II. Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012

3. In its resolution 65/306, the General Assembly appropriated an amount of $291,092,700 gross ($287,701,900 net) for the maintenance of UNSOA for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012. Expenditures for the period totalled $287,757,400 gross ($284,463,200 net). The resulting unencumbered balance of $3,335,300 represents, in gross terms, 1.1 per cent of the appropriation. An analysis of variances is provided in section IV of the budget performance report for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 (A/67/600).

4. Underexpenditures were mainly attributable to:

(a) Facilities and infrastructure ($19,654,700): reduced requirements for construction services, for petrol, oil and lubricants, and under alteration and renovation services; offset in part by increased requirements associated with the acquisition of prefabricated facilities;

(b) Medical ($2,237,600): reduced requirements for medical services and procurement of fewer supplies; offset in part by higher requirements for the acquisition of medical equipment.

5. Higher requirements were primarily attributable to:

(a) Communications ($6,778,800): acquisition of communications equipment and provision of public information services, offset in part by reduced requirements for commercial communications;

(b) Ground transportation ($5,010,600): acquisition of vehicles, offset in part by lower requirements for repairs and maintenance;

(c) International staff ($4,966,200): under salaries and common staff costs owing to accelerated recruitment. The actual average vacancy rate was 14.3 per cent during the reporting period, as compared with the budgeted 20 per cent rate.

6. Under Information technology in section II.F of the performance report (A/67/600), it is stated that UNSOA supported and maintained 612 computer desktops and 395 computer notebooks. During the performance period, UNSOA had 144 international staff, 107 national staff and 1 temporary staff. Upon enquiry as to the high ratio of computers to civilian staff, the Advisory Committee was informed that computers were also provided to uniformed personnel as well as non-United Nations civilian staff such as contractors and civilian personnel of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

7. Upon enquiry as to the lower-than-budgeted average actual salary costs under national staff, leading to a variance of $1,911,000 (or 32.2 per cent) (see A/67/600, para. 39), the Advisory Committee was informed that for national General Service staff, the funding level in the approved budget was based on recruiting national staff at the GS-6 and GS-7 levels, whereas UNSOA recruited 81 per cent of its staff below the GS-6 level, which resulted in the majority of the lower-than-planned expenditure under national staff. The Committee was further informed that, based on the experience in 2011/12, UNSOA adjusted the funding level for national General Service staff in the 2012/13 budget to the G-4 level. Actual encumbrance in the 2012/13 period provides for 32 per cent of national General Service staff at the G-4 level and below; and 68 per cent at the G-5 level and above. It was explained that the practice for national General Service level budgeting is to use the actual average national General Service staff grade and steps for each mission and to apply a one-step increment for the following budget period.

8. The comments of the Advisory Committee on the information presented in the performance report (A/67/600) on individual objects of expenditure can be found, where relevant, in the discussion of the proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 (A/67/712) in the paragraphs below.

III. Information on performance for the current period

9. The Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 7 March 2013, a total of $1,104,600,000 had been assessed on Member States in respect of UNSOA since its inception. Payments received as at the same date amounted to $960,643,000, leaving an outstanding balance of $143,957,000. **The Committee notes with concern that the cash position of UNSOA was $29,700,000 as at 4 March 2013, which does not cover the three-month operating cash reserve of $47,315,000 (representing a shortfall of $17,615,000). The Advisory Committee recalls that the General Assembly has consistently stressed that all Member States should fulfil their financial obligations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations on time, in full and without conditions (see resolution 65/293).**[1]

10. The Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 31 December 2012, the outstanding balance for contingent-owned equipment amounted to $9,443,000. The Committee recalls that the Security Council, in resolution 2036 (2012), decided to

[1] See also General Assembly resolutions 64/243, 62/236, 56/253 and 54/249.

expand the logistical support package for AMISOM to include the reimbursement of contingent-owned equipment, including force enablers and multipliers.

11. The Advisory Committee was also informed that, as at 28 February 2013, the incumbency for UNSOA for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 was as follows:

Category	*Authorized*[a]	*Encumbered*	*Vacancy rate (percentage)*
Military contingents	17 181	17 181	–
AMISOM police	270	93	65.6
AMISOM formed police	280	280	–
Posts			
International staff	223	207	7.2
National staff	152	125	17.8

[a] Represents the highest level of authorized strength for the period.

12. The Advisory Committee was provided with information showing current and projected expenditures for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013, with reasons for variances. Expenditures for the period, as at 28 February 2013, amounted to $259,617,400. At the end of the current financial period, the estimated total expenditures would amount to $434,233,100 against the appropriation of $436,905,000, leaving a projected unencumbered balance of $2,671,900.

IV. Proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014

A. Mandate and planned results

13. By resolution 1863 (2009), the Security Council authorized UNSOA to provide a logistical support package for AMISOM, and it expanded the mandate in subsequent resolutions. Resolution 2093 (2013), the latest one, extended the mandate of UNSOA until 28 February 2014. The Council agreed with the Secretary-General that UNPOS had fulfilled its mandate and should now be dissolved, and further agreed that UNPOS should be replaced by a new expanded Special Political Mission as soon as possible. The Council also decided that UNSOA should be integrated within the framework of the new Mission, with the head of UNSOA continuing to report to the Department of Field Support on the delivery of the AMISOM logistical support package, and reporting to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on logistical support to the new United Nations Mission and on policy or political questions arising from the functions of UNSOA relevant to the mandate of the new Mission. The Committee was informed during the hearing that the new mandate of the United Nations Support Office for the African Union Mission in Somalia to support the new Mission was not expected to result in any significant resource requirement changes, and any additional requirements would be absorbed within existing resources.

14. Upon enquiry as to the reporting lines vis-à-vis the new Mission, the Advisory Committee was informed that UNSOA would remain a separate entity, retaining its name, structure and identity, while part of the overall framework of the United Nations in Somalia. The Director of the United Nations Support Office for the African Union Mission in Somalia will be the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and report to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on issues relating to support to the new Mission and will be part of its senior leadership. On issues relating to support to AMISOM, the Director of UNSOA will maintain the current reporting lines through the Department of Field Support. **The Advisory Committee underscores the importance of respecting the different reporting lines, and recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to elaborate on these new reporting arrangements in its next report to the Assembly, in particular the impact on accountability issues.**

15. The Secretary-General indicates in his report that the military gains achieved by the Transitional Federal Government security forces and AMISOM across south central Somalia, and the political developments that resulted in a new Constitution, Parliament and President which ended the transition period, will have a significant impact on AMISOM operations. As a result, it is expected that AMISOM will consolidate and expand its presence in south central Somalia and will require more permanent battalion accommodation in the sector headquarters locations in Baidoa, Belet Weyne and Kismaayo, since its operations would potentially become more static as anti-Government elements are contained (see A/67/712, para. 6).

16. The Secretary-General stated that UNSOA would continue its construction programme, which would include additional permanent infrastructure at critical operational locations; it would also expand its major support base in Mogadishu as well as at the three sector logistic hubs in Kismaayo, Baidoa and Belet Weyne to ensure timely support to AMISOM. Construction of camps will follow the planned deployment of AMISOM personnel across south central Somalia. The proposed budget includes three construction projects with values greater than $1 million: (a) the first phase of the construction of three battalion-size camps for sectors 1 through 4, with an estimated value of $15.3 million; (b) construction of three sector hubs for sectors 2 through 4, with an estimated value of $3.6 million; and (c) operation of a fleet of heavy plant and equipment through third-party operators, with an estimated value at $2.1 million based on a current contract for similar services (see A/67/712, paras. 7-9; see also para. 35 below).

17. The Secretary-General indicates that medical services support remains a priority and that there will be level II medical facilities in sectors 1, 2 and 3, with a level I+ in sector 4. The existing commercial air medical evacuation services (both fixed and rotary wing) will continue to be operated, assisted by military rotary wing assets across Somalia for evacuation to sector hubs and back to Nairobi, with UNSOA providing levels III and IV services in Kenya and South Africa (A/67/712, para. 11).

18. With respect to human resources, the Secretary-General states that the expanded support requirement in south central Somalia in 2013/14 will require UNSOA to deploy more human resources to sectors 2, 3 and 4. UNSOA will be structured around a Nairobi headquarters that focuses on policy, financial management, strategic planning and administrative functions; a Mombasa Support Base (with rear warehousing, training and information and communications technology hub services); and operations in Somalia that manage activities relating

to implementation and tactical areas of the operation. UNSOA plans to develop Mogadishu as its main logistics base, which requires moving staff resources from Mombasa to Mogadishu. In addition, functions and staff will be transferred to the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda. Therefore, the staff presence in Mogadishu and Entebbe will increase with a corresponding drawdown in Nairobi and Mombasa, and the increased deployment to Somalia will impact the costs related to hardship, mobility and danger pay entitlements. For the 2013/14 period, the UNSOA civilian staffing level is proposed to increase by 26 posts and positions (see A/67/712, paras. 17-24; see also paras. 25-33 below).

B. Regional mission cooperation and partnerships

19. The Secretary-General indicates in his report that UNSOA will continue to provide administrative support to the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) in the areas of administrative services, technical services and budget management. UNSOA also intends to increase its level of cooperation and engagement with the United Nations Office to the African Union (see A/67/712, para. 30).

20. In paragraph 33 of his report, the Secretary-General refers to the establishment of the AMISOM-UNSOA Senior Mission Leadership Coordination and Planning Team, which provides strategic-level decisions and guidance. The Director of UNSOA also holds regular meetings with the leadership of troop-contributing countries and the African Union Commission, and participates in meetings between the African Union and Chiefs of Defence Forces from troop-contributing countries and the Military Operations Coordination Committee, as well as meetings of the African Union Peace and Security Council.

21. In addition, UNSOA continues to work closely with bilateral partners and donors, and participates in meetings of the Senior Policy Group and meetings of the United Nations country team for Somalia (see A/67/712, paras. 34-36).

C. Resource requirements

22. The proposed budget for UNSOA for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 amounts to $448,439,200, representing an increase of $11,534,200 (or 2.6 per cent) in gross terms, compared with the appropriation of $436,905,000 for 2012/13. The Advisory Committee notes that, if compared to the projected expenditures of $434,233,100 for 2012/13 (see para. 12 above), the proposed resource increase for 2013/14 would amount to $14,206,100. The proposed budget provides for the planned deployment of 241 international staff and 160 national staff, in support of an authorized strength of 17,191 AMISOM military contingent personnel, 260 AMISOM police officers and 280 AMISOM formed police personnel.

23. An analysis of variances is provided in section III of the proposed budget. Key resource variances include:

(a) Increased requirements under facilities and infrastructure ($11,765,900) attributable primarily to higher maintenance service costs mainly relating to camp management services in Mogadishu in order to support 6,800 AMISOM uniformed personnel and civilian personnel, and higher estimated costs for petrol, oil and

lubricants, mainly reflecting the operation and maintenance of 10 fuel distribution points as compared to six sites in the 2012/13 period; offset in part by decreased requirements for maintenance supplies, owing to provisions made during the prior period;

(b) Increased requirements under air transportation ($7,984,260) attributable primarily to equipment and supplies for air operations infrastructures, higher rental and operation costs for helicopters, and higher provision for petrol, oil and lubricants;

(c) Decreased requirements under military contingents ($6,992,700) attributable primarily to the non-deployment of contingent-owned equipment during the 2013/14 period, as all AMISOM military personnel and associated contingent-owned equipment are expected to be deployed by 30 June 2013;

(d) Decreased requirements under medical ($4,794,500) attributable mainly to a lower expected number of medical evacuations and hospitalizations.

In addition, the proposed budget proposes an increase in the civilian staffing level of 26 posts and positions (see paras. 25-33 below).

1. Military and police personnel

Category	*Approved 2012/13*[a]	*Proposed 2013/14*	*Variance*
AMISOM military contingent personnel	17 181	17 191	10
AMISOM police officers	270	260	(10)
AMISOM formed police units	280	280	–
Total	**17 731**	**17 731**	**–**

[a] Represents the highest level of authorized strength for the period.

24. The estimated requirements for military and police personnel for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 amount to $98,850,500, a decrease of $5,374,200 (or 5.2 per cent), compared with the appropriation for 2012/13. The proposed decrease for 2013/14 is attributable mainly to military contingents, as described in paragraph 23 (c) above.

2. Civilian personnel

Category	*Approved 2012/13*[a]	*Proposed 2013/14*	*Variance*
International staff	223	240	17
National staff	152	160	8
Temporary positions	–	1	1
Total	**375**	**401**	**26**

[a] Represents the highest level of authorized strength for the period.

25. The estimated requirements for civilian personnel for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 amount to $44,966,100, an increase of $2,922,100 (or 7.0 per cent), compared with the appropriation for 2012/13. A vacancy factor of 15.0 per cent is applied to estimates for international staff (compared to 19.7 per cent for

2012/13), 15.0 per cent for National Professional Officers (compared to 29.6 per cent for 2012/13), and 15.0 per cent for national General Service staff (compared to 15.2 per cent for 2012/13).

26. The variances are related to:

(a) Increased requirements under international staff ($2,682,500) attributable mainly to the net increase of 17 international staff, reflecting the costs associated with the deployment of 240 international staff with a 15 per cent vacancy factor;

(b) Increased requirements under national staff ($72,900) attributable mainly to the net increase of eight posts, reflecting the costs associated with the deployment of 160 national staff with a 15 per cent vacancy factor;

(c) Increased requirements under general temporary assistance ($166,700) related to one P-4 position to undertake responsibilities related to Umoja and the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS).

27. The proposed staffing level represents an increase of 26 posts and positions, including: (a) the establishment of 20 new posts owing to the transfer of functions that are currently under the budget of UNPOS, in accordance with resolution 67/246, in which the General Assembly approved the transfer of all relevant functions from the UNPOS budget; (b) the establishment of eight new posts in the Safety and Security Section for close protection of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of UNPOS; (c) the abolishment of one D-1 post as a result of restructuring within UNSOA; (d) the abolishment of two posts as a result of efficiency from the services provided by the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe (see para. 40 below); and (e) the establishment of one general temporary assistance position in UNSOA for Umoja and IPSAS responsibilities. Eight posts are proposed to be transferred from UNSOA to the Regional Service Centre (see A/67/712, para. 24; see also para. 40 below). A detailed description of the changes proposed under each component is provided in the budget document (see A/67/712, paras. 41-65).

28. It is proposed that in the 2013/14 period, UNSOA will restructure its civilian staffing into three components: Office of the Director, Somalia Support Operations and Strategic Management Services. The functions of the current Administrative Services will be subsumed into Somalia Support Operations and Strategic Management Services, resulting in the abolishment of the D-1 post in Administrative Services. Furthermore, in response to the improved security situation in-theatre and the staffing of the AMISOM Force headquarters in Mogadishu, UNSOA will expand the number of staff in Somalia. UNSOA will be structured around a Nairobi headquarters consisting of two pillars: the Office of the Director and Strategic Management Services (see A/67/712, paras. 41 and 42).

29. Upon enquiry as to the transfer of functions from UNPOS, the Advisory Committee was informed that the 20 posts comprise: two P-3 Security Officers; one Field Service Security Officer; three Field Service Protection Officers; three Field Service Personal Protection Officers; four national Security Assistants; two Field Service Telecommunications Assistants; three national Information Technology Assistants; and two national Engineering Assistants. The Committee was also informed that efficiency gains of 10 per cent were achieved through the integration of UNPOS administrative support structures with UNSOA. **The Advisory Committee notes that, despite the reported efficiency gains, no actual savings were achieved with the integration of administrative support structures. The Committee**

encourages the Mission to review possibilities for savings in this regard and welcomes proposals to this effect in the proposed budget for 2014/15.

30. Regarding the establishment of eight new posts in the Safety and Security Section, the Secretary-General states that the operating environment within Somalia is extremely hostile and volatile, and close protection would also be provided to other UNPOS and UNSOA staff when they move to unsafe locations. Security risk assessments indicate the need for increased close protection in both Kenya and Somalia for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. Currently, the close protection team consists of six Personal Protection Officers, which allows only partial protective details service. The additional eight posts would allow for 24-hour-a-day and seven-day-a-week close protection (see A/67/712, paras. 55-60).

31. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that close protection operations provide 24/7 protection to a protectee and are deployed against a specific threat. The concept is that each personal protection team will have a minimum staffing of four officers to be with the protectee at any given time. These officers, all at Field Service-level, will be supported by drivers at either Field Service- or General Service-level. Multiple teams will be required to provide 24/7 protection, resulting in a minimum deployment of 12 officers, not including drivers and support elements. Therefore, it is explained that the team in Somalia would comprise 12 persons plus the coordinator and his/her deputy. As the current close protection team is composed of six persons, an additional eight posts are requested.

32. With respect to the coordinator and deputy coordinator posts, the Committee was informed that protection coordination entails the coordination and management of one or more close protection operations, which is accomplished by a Professional-level Protection Coordination Officer assisted by one or more senior Field Service-level Protection Coordination Officers. Given the high level of travel of the protectee and the absence of the coordinator owing to the four-week rest and recuperation cycle, the deputy post is needed to ensure protection at all times.

33. **The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the staffing changes proposed by the Secretary-General.**

3. Operational costs

(United States dollars)

Apportioned 2012/13	*Proposed 2013/14*	*Variance*
290 636 300	304 622 600	13 986 300

34. The estimated operational requirements for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 amount to $304,622,600, an increase of $13,986,300 (or 4.8 per cent), compared with the appropriation for 2012/13. The increase is attributable mainly to higher requirements under facilities and infrastructure and air transportation, as detailed in paragraph 23 (a) and (b) above.

Construction services

35. The proposed budget includes a request of $24,363,800 for construction services, representing an increase of $1,303,100 (or 5.7 per cent) from the apportionment for 2012/13 of $23,060,700. Upon enquiry, the Committee was

informed of the following implementation rates under construction services: for 2009/10, $15,452,400 against the apportionment of $41,737,000 (or 37.0 per cent); for 2010/11, $30,593,362 against the apportionment of $34,486,300 (or 88.7 per cent); for 2011/12, $14,812,600 against the apportionment of $27,709,800 (or 53.5 per cent); and for 2012/13, as at the end of March 2013, $8.6 million against the apportionment of $23,060,700 (or 37.3 per cent). **In this context, the Committee recalls its previous observations regarding close supervision of the heavy schedule for construction in order to ensure delivery as quickly as possible (see A/66/718/Add.19, para. 69). Taking into account the inconsistent implementation rate of construction projects in UNSOA since 2009, and the trend of underutilization of resources under this expenditure class, the Advisory Committee recommends against the requested increase in resources for construction services. Consequently, the Committee recommends that resources for construction services for 2013/14 be maintained at the same level as for the current period ($23,060,700). Should additional resources be required in 2013/14 for construction services, this should be reflected in the performance report.**

Maintenance services

36. Under maintenance services, an amount of $16,322,600 is requested, representing an increase of $7,979,000 (or 95.6 per cent) from the apportionment for 2012/13 of $8,343,600. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that there has been a relatively low implementation rate under maintenance services owing to the ongoing lengthy and difficult procurement process for long-term agreements of camp operations and maintenance services. The Committee was further informed that the process is expected to be completed by the end of the current period, and all required services for all facilities in all sectors would be available. The Committee notes that expenditures for the 2011/12 period under maintenance services amounted to $2,355,400, against the apportionment of $6,036,300, representing an underutilization of 61.0 per cent. The Committee was also informed that, as at 31 January 2013, expenditures for the current period under maintenance services amounted to $3,732,300, against the apportionment of $8,343,600 (or 44.7 per cent). **Taking into account the low implementation rate during the previous and current (as at 31 January 2013) financial periods, the Advisory Committee recommends against the requested increase in resources for maintenance services. Consequently, the Committee recommends that resources for maintenance services for 2013/14 be maintained at the same level as for the current period ($8,343,600). Should additional resources be required in 2013/14 for maintenance services, this should be reflected in the performance report.**

Consultants

37. The Secretary-General includes in his report (A/67/712) a request for $2,328,400 for consultants, representing an increase of $86,100 (or 3.8 per cent) compared with the apportionment of $2,242,300 for 2012/13. In paragraph 18 of the report, the Secretary-General states that owing to the security situation in Somalia, it is necessary to utilize contracted service providers (both commercial companies and individual contractors and consultants) to implement the mandate. From information provided to it, the Advisory Committee notes that expenditures as at 31 January 2013 under consultants amounted to $610,400 against the apportionment of

$2,242,300. In this context, the Committee recalls its previous observations regarding the use of consultants by UNSOA (see A/66/718/Add.19, para. 66).

38. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the consultants will act as surge personnel to train AMISOM troops on subjects including diesel catering equipment, vehicle maintenance and processes, vehicle recovery, fuel storage and distribution, rations storage and distribution, and will also conduct quality assurance inspections. UNSOA does not have sufficient staff to conduct this training and, for security reasons, Somali nationals are not allowed in AMISOM tactical locations although they are allowed into the permanent camps. Furthermore, recruitment of national capacity in the sectors is pending a common policy of the Government of Somalia on Somalis working in the sectors. **Considering the low utilization rate under consultants in the current period, the Advisory Committee recommends against the requested increase in resources for consultants. Consequently, the Committee recommends that resources for consultants for 2013/14 be maintained at the same level as for the current period ($2,242,300). Should additional resources be required in 2013/14 for consultants, this should be reflected in the performance report. In addition, the Committee encourages UNSOA to further increase the use of national capacity wherever possible.**

Fuel

39. From information provided to it, the Advisory Committee notes the increases in the average unit cost of fuel under ground transportation (6.6 million litres at an average unit cost of $1.42 per litre in 2013/14, as compared to 7.4 million litres at an average unit cost of $1.41 per litre in 2012/13); and air transportation (3.8 million litres at an average unit cost of $1.8 per litre in 2013/14, as compared to 4.4 million litres at an average unit cost of $1.2 per litre in 2012/13). **The Advisory Committee recommends that in future negotiations with suppliers, in particular, when the United Nations has increased procurement activities, all necessary efforts should be made to negotiate a lower average unit cost of fuel.**

V. Other matters

Regional Service Centre in Entebbe

40. In his report on the proposed budget, the Secretary-General indicates that the finance and human resources functions are proposed to be strengthened at the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe during 2013/14 in order to align the shared service operation of the Centre to the Umoja model and to the implementation of Inspira, as part of an increased delegation of authority to missions. Eight posts, comprising five posts from the Finance Section, two posts from the Human Resources Section and one post from the Communications and Information Technology Service, are proposed to be redeployed from UNSOA to the Regional Service Centre. The Secretary-General indicates that as a result of efficiency from the services provided by the Centre, it is proposed to abolish a P-4 post and a national General Service post in the UNSOA Finance Section. The UNSOA share of the costs for the Regional Service Centre amounts to $1,943,300 (see A/67/712, paras. 31, 32 and 65; see also para. 27 above).

Follow-up action taken to implement recommendations of the Board of Auditors

41. A summary of follow-up action taken to implement recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors relating to the 2010/11 period (see A/66/5 (Vol. II), chap. II) is provided in section V.C of the proposed budget. The Committee notes that of the seven recommendations of the Board of Auditors, UNSOA has implemented two. The five remaining recommendations are under implementation as follows: (a) UNSOA conducted a physical count of expendable property as at 30 June 2012; (b) UNSOA has started reviewing strategic deployment stock inventory for the availability of needed assets, and has committed to use strategic deployment stock whenever economically beneficial; (c) UNSOA has established mechanisms to monitor the splitting of awards to address earlier weaknesses and to avoid ex post facto cases; (d) UNSOA complies fully with the delegated procurement authority according to the Procurement Manual and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations; and (e) the Mission management encourages internationally recruited staff to use their entitlements to acquire personal vehicles. **The Advisory Committee notes the measures taken so far by UNSOA to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and trusts that the remaining recommendations will be implemented in a timely manner.**

Environmental programme

42. The Secretary-General indicates that UNSOA has made progress in launching its environmental programme, which is based on an assessment made by the United Nations Environment Programme in 2010. Citywide waste collection is scheduled to commence in 2013 and waste separation and processing facilities are due for commencement of operations in 2013. One ash landfill facility will commence operation by UNSOA contractors from 2013. All AMISOM and UNSOA wastewater is treated by conventional septic systems or sophisticated wastewater treatment plants, with no effluent being released into the environment untreated at any permanent camp location. The Secretary-General further states that UNSOA is currently looking at options of installing environmentally friendly power generation systems (photovoltaic, wind) at permanent camp locations to reduce fossil fuel consumption and its carbon footprint (see A/67/712, para. 29). **The Advisory Committee commends the efforts of UNSOA to reduce the environmental impact of its operations and encourages the Mission to continue to develop environmentally friendly waste management and power generation systems.**

VI. Conclusion

43. The action to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of logistical support for AMISOM and other immediate activities related to a future United Nations peacekeeping operation for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 is contained in section V of the budget performance report (A/67/600). **The Advisory Committee recommends that the unencumbered balance of $3,335,300 for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012, as well as other income/adjustments amounting to $15,457,000 for the period ended 30 June 2012, be credited to Member States.**

44. The action to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of the logistical support for AMISOM for the period from 1 July 2013 to

30 June 2014 is set out in section IV of the proposed budget (A/67/712). **The Advisory Committee recommends:**

(a) **Appropriation of the amount of $439,071,000 for the 12-month period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014;**

(b) **Assessment of the amount of $439,071,000 at a monthly rate of $36,589,250 should the Security Council decide to continue the mandate of the logistical support for AMISOM.**

Documentation

- Budget performance of the financing of support of the African Union Mission in Somalia for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 (A/67/600)
- Budget for the United Nations Support Office for the African Union Mission in Somalia for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 (A/67/712)
- Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia (S/2013/69)
- Report of the Board of Auditors on United Nations peacekeeping operations for the 12-month period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (A/66/5 (Vol. II), chap. II)
- Report of the Board of Auditors on United Nations peacekeeping operations for the 12-month period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 (A/67/5 (Vol. II), chap. II)
- Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on observations and recommendations on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/67/780)
- Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the budget performance for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 of the financing of support for the African Union Mission in Somalia and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 of the United Nations Support Office for the African Union Mission in Somalia (A/66/718/Add.19)
- General Assembly resolutions 65/306 and 66/280 on the financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009)
- Security Council resolution 2093 (2013)